IN THE CLAIMS:

For the convenience of the examiner, the complete listing of pending claims is provided below.

1. (Original) A method to produce visual effect on a display, the method comprising:
receiving a first time length; and
adjusting, according to an elapsed time, color correction parameters a plurality of times during a time period of the first length.

2. (Original) A method as in claim 1, wherein the color correction parameters comprise at least one look up table for gamma correction; and wherein said elapsed time is measured by a real time clock which measures time during production of the visual effect.

3. (Original) A method as in claim 2, wherein the at least one look up table is adjusted to blend input color signals with a color; and wherein the input color signals is blended with the color according to the elapsed time.

4. (Original) A method as in claim 3, wherein a weight on the color to blend the input color signals with the color changes faster near a middle of the time period than at one of:
a) a beginning of the time period; and
b) an end of the time period.

5. (Original) A method as in claim 4, wherein the weight is determined from a function of the elapsed time.

6. (Original) A method as in claim 1, further comprising:
performing color correction according to the color correction parameters.

7. (Original) A method as in claim 1, wherein said adjusting the color correction parameters comprises:
instructing a graphics processing unit (GPU) to adjust the color correction parameters according to the elapsed time.

8. (Original) A method as in claim 1, wherein a frequency for said adjusting the color correction parameters is determined according to a refreshing frequency for displaying, on the display, input color signals corrected by the color correction parameters.

9. (Original) A method as in claim 8, wherein the frequency for said adjusting the color correction parameters is substantially equal to the refreshing frequency.

10. (Original) A method as in claim 1, wherein said adjusting the color correction parameters comprises:
determining a first value of the elapsed time;
determining first values of the color correction parameters according to the first value of the elapsed time;
determining a second value of the elapsed time; and

determining second values of the color correction parameters according to the second value of the elapsed time.

11. (Original) A method as in claim 10, wherein said adjusting the color correction parameters is performed by an operating system of a data processing system according to a task scheduler in response to a request from an application program running on the data processing system.

12. (Original) A method as in claim 11, wherein the application program is allowed to execute operations during the time period.

13. (Original) A method as in claim 11, wherein the application program is not allowed to execute operations until the request is fulfilled.

14. (Original) A method as in claim 1, further comprising:
restoring, after the time period, the color correction parameters to values that the color correction parameters have before the time period.

15. (Original) A method as in claim 14, wherein said restoring is performed on expiration of a reservation time period, within which said adjusting the color correction parameters is performed.

16. (Original) A method as in claim 1, further comprising:
receiving a second time length from a second application program; and

adjusting, according to an elapsed time, the color correction parameters a plurality of times during a time period of the second length in response to a request from the second application program;

wherein the first time length is received from a first application program; and

wherein said adjusting the color correction parameters during the time period of the first length is in response to a request from the first application program.

17. (Original) A method as in claim 1, further comprising:

receiving a request for a reservation from a first application program; and

granting a first reservation to the first application program in response to a determination that there is no pending reservation;

wherein the first time length is received from the first application program; and

wherein said adjusting the color correction parameters is in response to a request from the first application program that is in possess of the first reservation.

18. (Original) A method as in claim 17, wherein said adjusting the color correction parameters is performed after a determination that the request from the first application program is received within a reservation time period for the first reservation.

19. (Original) A method as in claim 18, further comprising:

restoring, upon expiration of the reservation, the color correction parameters to values that the color correction parameters have before the reservation.

20. (Original) A machine readable medium containing executable computer program instructions which when executed by a data processing system cause said system to perform a method to produce visual effect on a display of the data processing system, the method comprising:

receiving a first time length; and

adjusting, according to an elapsed time, color correction parameters a plurality of times during a time period of the first length.

21. (Original) A medium as in claim 20, wherein the color correction parameters comprise at least one look up table for gamma correction; and wherein said elapsed time is measured by a real time clock which measures time during production of the visual effect.

22. (Original) A medium as in claim 21, wherein the at least one look up table is adjusted to blend input color signals with a color; and wherein the input color signals is blended with the color according to the elapsed time.

23. (Original) A medium as in claim 22, wherein a weight on the color to blend the input color signals with the color changes faster near a middle of the time period than at one of:

a) a beginning of the time period; and

b) an end of the time period.

24. (Original) A medium as in claim 23, wherein the weight is determined from a function of the elapsed time.

25. (Original) A medium as in claim 20, wherein the method further comprises:

performing color correction according to the color correction parameters.

26. (Original) A medium as in claim 20, wherein said adjusting the color correction parameters comprises:

instructing a graphics processing unit (GPU) to adjust the color correction parameters according to the elapsed time.

27. (Original) A medium as in claim 20, wherein a frequency for said adjusting the color correction parameters is determined according to a refreshing frequency for displaying, on the display, input color signals corrected by the color correction parameters.

28. (Original) A medium as in claim 27, wherein the frequency for said adjusting the color correction parameters is substantially equal to the refreshing frequency.

29. (Original) A medium as in claim 20, wherein said adjusting the color correction parameters comprises:

determining a first value of the elapsed time;

determining first values of the color correction parameters according to the first value of the elapsed time;

determining a second value of the elapsed time; and

determining second values of the color correction parameters according to the second value of the elapsed time.

30. (Original) A medium as in claim 29, wherein said adjusting the color correction parameters is performed by an operating system of a data processing system according to a task scheduler in response to a request from an application program running on the data processing system.

31. (Original) A medium as in claim 30, wherein the application program is allowed to execute operations during the time period.

32. (Original) A medium as in claim 30, wherein the application program is not allowed to execute operations until the request is fulfilled.

33. (Original) A medium as in claim 20, wherein the method further comprises:
restoring, after the time period, the color correction parameters to values that the color correction parameters have before the time period.

34. (Original) A medium as in claim 33, wherein said restoring is performed on expiration of a reservation time period, within which said adjusting the color correction parameters is performed.

35. (Original) A medium as in claim 20, wherein the method further comprises:
receiving a second time length from a second application program; and
adjusting, according to an elapsed time, the color correction parameters a plurality of times during a time period of the second length in response to a request from the second application program;
wherein the first time length is received from a first application program; and

wherein said adjusting the color correction parameters during the time period of the first length is in response to a request from the first application program.

36. (Original) A medium as in claim 20, wherein the method further comprises:
receiving a request for a reservation from a first application program; and
granting a first reservation to the first application program in response to a determination that there is no pending reservation;
wherein the first time length is received from the first application program; and
wherein said adjusting the color correction parameters is in response to a request from the first application program that is in possess of the first reservation.

37. (Original) A medium as in claim 36, wherein said adjusting the color correction parameters is performed after a determination that the request from the first application program is received within a reservation time period for the first reservation.

38. (Original) A medium as in claim 37, wherein the method further comprises:
restoring, upon expiration of the reservation, the color correction parameters to values that the color correction parameters have before the reservation.

39. (Original) A data processing system to produce visual effect on a display device, the data processing system comprising:
means for receiving a first time length; and
means for adjusting, according to an elapsed time, color correction parameters a plurality of times during a time period of the first length.

40. (Original) A data processing system as in claim 39, wherein the color correction parameters comprise at least one look up table for gamma correction; and wherein said elapsed time is measured by a real time clock which measures time during production of the visual effect.

41. (Original) A data processing system as in claim 40, wherein the at least one look up table is adjusted to blend input color signals with a color; and wherein the input color signals is blended with the color according to the elapsed time.

42. (Original) A data processing system as in claim 41, wherein a weight on the color to blend the input color signals with the color changes faster near a middle of the time period than at one of:
a) a beginning of the time period; and
b) an end of the time period.

43. (Original) A data processing system as in claim 42, wherein the weight is determined from a function of the elapsed time.

44. (Original) A data processing system as in claim 39, further comprising:
means for performing color correction according to the color correction parameters.

45. (Original) A data processing system as in claim 39, wherein said means for adjusting the color correction parameters comprises:
means for instructing a graphics processing unit (GPU) to adjust the color correction parameters according to the elapsed time.

46. (Original) A data processing system as in claim 39, wherein a frequency for adjusting the color correction parameters is determined according to a refreshing frequency for displaying, on the display device, input color signals corrected by the color correction parameters.

47. (Original) A data processing system as in claim 46, wherein the frequency for adjusting the color correction parameters is substantially equal to the refreshing frequency.

48. (Original) A data processing system as in claim 39, wherein said means for adjusting the color correction parameters comprises:

means for determining a first value of the elapsed time;

means for determining first values of the color correction parameters according to the first value of the elapsed time;

means for determining a second value of the elapsed time; and

means for determining second values of the color correction parameters according to the second value of the elapsed time.

49. (Original) A data processing system as in claim 48, wherein the color correction parameters are adjusted by an operating system of a data processing system according to a task scheduler in response to a request from an application program running on the data processing system.

50. (Original) A data processing system as in claim 49, wherein the application program is allowed to execute operations during the time period.

51. (Original) A data processing system as in claim 49, wherein the application program is not allowed to execute operations until the request is fulfilled.

52. (Original) A data processing system as in claim 39, further comprising:
means for restoring, after the time period, the color correction parameters to values that the color correction parameters have before the time period.

53. (Original) A data processing system as in claim 52, wherein the color correction parameters are restored on expiration of a reservation time period, within which said adjusting the color correction parameters is performed.

54. (Original) A data processing system as in claim 39, further comprising:
means for receiving a second time length from a second application program; and
means for adjusting, according to an elapsed time, the color correction parameters a plurality of times during a time period of the second length in response to a request from the second application program;
wherein the first time length is received from a first application program; and
wherein the color correction parameters are adjusted during the time period of the first length in response to a request from the first application program.

55. (Original) A data processing system as in claim 39, further comprising:
means for receiving a request for a reservation from a first application program; and
means for granting a first reservation to the first application program in response to a determination that there is no pending reservation;
wherein the first time length is received from the first application program; and

wherein the color correction parameters are adjusted in response to a request from the first application program that is in possess of the first reservation.

56. (Original) A data processing system as in claim 55, wherein the color correction parameters are adjusted after a determination that the request from the first application program is received within a reservation time period for the first reservation.

57. (Original) A data processing system as in claim 56, further comprising:

means for restoring, upon expiration of the reservation, the color correction parameters to values that the color correction parameters have before the reservation.